
Animal Health and Plant Health Unit (ALPHA UNIT)

Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Welfare
Minutes of the 6th meeting of the Working Group on African swine fever
Held on 22 June 2015
in Parma
(Agreed on 22 June 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**
 - Hans-Hermann THULKE
 - Frank KOENEN
- **EFSA:**
 - Sofie DHOLLANDER

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topics for discussion

The comments of the AHAW Panel on the draft final version of the opinion were received and dealt with. The summary and conclusions were finalised.

- a) Evaluate the epidemiological data on ASF from Lithuania, Poland, Latvia and Estonia in order to obtain indications on the local behaviour of ASF in the wild boar population and its interaction with domestic pigs.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

- b) An assessment of the possible risk of spread of ASF-Genotype II strains/isolates currently or recently circulating in Europe, and especially in Russia or the Baltic States, by pigs or wild boar becoming "carrier" that might play a role in virus transmission while remaining non-symptomatic.
- c) Where new data is available, provide an update of previous Scientific Opinions on ASF, in particular: i) describe identifiable relevant trends in wild boar population dynamics in the EU and its Eastern neighbouring territories; and ii) provide an updated distribution of ASF competent vectors (soft ticks) and its possible role on ASF epidemiology specially in Russia or the Baltic States.
- d) In view of controlling ASF, assess the best management options for wild boar both in infected areas and in the bordering risk areas, taking into account the local climatic conditions and wild boar ecology. Assess in particular the suitability, effectiveness and the practical aspects of implementation of the main measures, in particular different tailor-made feed ban(s) for wild boar, selective well-described hunting practices, taking into account the local situations and giving quantitative baseline indications on these measures as well as spatial and temporal parameters.

Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Welfare
Minutes of the 5th meeting of the Working Group on African swine fever
Held from 27 until 29 May 2015
by web-conference
(Agreed on 29 May 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**
 - Sandra BLOME
 - Ana DE LA TORRE
 - Hans-Hermann THULKE
 - Claire GUINAT
 - Mary Louise PENRITH
 - Frank KOENEN
 - Vittorio GUBERTI
 - Iwona MARKOWSKA-DANIEL
 - Carola SAUTER-LOUIS
 - Maria Luisa ARIAS
 - Giovanna MASSEI
 - Tomasz PODGORSKI
 - Jose Manuel SANCHEZ-VIZCAINO RODRIGUEZ
 - Sergei KHOMENKO
 - András NAHLIK
- **EFSA:**
 - Sofie DHOLLANDER,
 - Alessandro BROGLIA,
 - Andrey GOGIN

5. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

6. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes

7. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest⁴, EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

8. Scientific topics for discussion

The draft opinion was presented for discussion at the AHAW plenary. The working group dealt with the comments and agreed on the conclusions and recommendations on the following topics:

- a) Evaluate the epidemiological data on ASF from Lithuania, Poland, Latvia and Estonia in order to obtain indications on the local behaviour of ASF in the wild boar population and its interaction with domestic pigs.
- b) An assessment of the possible risk of spread of ASF-Genotype II strains/isolates currently or recently circulating in Europe, and especially in Russia or the Baltic States, by pigs or wild boar becoming "carrier" that might play a role in virus transmission while remaining non-symptomatic.
- c) Where new data is available, provide an update of previous Scientific Opinions on ASF, in particular: i) describe identifiable relevant trends in wild boar population dynamics in the EU and its Eastern neighbouring territories; and ii) provide an updated distribution of ASF competent vectors (soft ticks) and its possible role on ASF epidemiology specially in Russia or the Baltic States.
- d) In view of controlling ASF, assess the best management options for wild boar both in infected areas and in the bordering risk areas, taking into account the local climatic conditions and wild boar ecology. Assess in particular the suitability, effectiveness and the practical aspects of implementation of the main measures, in particular different tailor-made feed ban(s) for wild boar, selective well-described hunting practices, taking into account the local situations and giving quantitative baseline indications on these measures as well as spatial and temporal parameters.

9. Next meeting:

22 June, 2015 in Parma

Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Welfare
Minutes of the 4th meeting of the Working Group on African swine fever
Held from 14 until 16 April 2015
in Parma
(Agreed on 16 April 2015)

Participants

• **Working Group Members:**

- Ana DE LA TORRE
- Carola SAUTER-LOUIS
- Hans-Hermann THULKE
- Mary Louise PENRITH
- Frank KOENEN
- Tomasz PODGORSKI
- Giovanna MASSEI
- Vittorio GUBERTI
- András NAHLIK
- Sergei KHOMENKO

• **Hearing experts:**

- Linda DOMBROVSKA
- Olgirda BELOVA
- Eugenijus TIJUSAS
- Janis OZOLINS
- Marius MASIULIS
- Jiri KAMLER
- Carme ROSELL
- Ulf HOHMANN
- Maarjia KRISTIAN
- Anton MEZHNEV
- Dragan GACIC
- Männil PEEP
- Milos JEZEK
- Karolin LILLEMAE
- Boštjan POKORNY
- Nickolay MARKOV
- Radim PLHAL
- Edvins OLSEVSKIS
- Carlos FONSECA

– Sandra CELLINA

• **EFSA:**

- Sofie DHOLLANDER,
- Alessandro BROGLIA,
- Andrey GOGIN

10. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

11. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes

12. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes⁵ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest⁶, EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

13. Scientific topics for discussion

- a) Evaluate the epidemiological data on ASF from Lithuania, Poland, Latvia and Estonia in order to obtain indications on the local behaviour of ASF in the wild boar population and its interaction with domestic pigs.
- b) In view of controlling ASF, assess the best management options for wild boar both in infected areas and in the bordering risk areas, taking into account the local climatic conditions and wild boar ecology. Assess in particular the suitability, effectiveness and the practical aspects of implementation of the main measures, in particular different tailor-made feed ban(s) for wild boar, selective well-described hunting practices, taking into account the local situations and giving quantitative baseline indications on these measures as well as spatial and temporal parameters.

14. Next meeting:

27-29 May, 2015 by web-conference

⁵ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

⁶ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Welfare
Minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Working Group on African swine fever
Held from 12 until 31 March 2015
by web-conference
(Agreed on 31 March 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**
 - Sandra BLOME
 - Ana DE LA TORRE
 - Hans-Hermann THULKE
 - Claire GUINAT
 - Mary Louise PENRITH
 - Frank KOENEN
 - Vittorio GUBERTI
 - Iwona MARKOWSKA-DANIEL
 - Carola SAUTER-LOUIS
 - Maria Luisa ARIAS
 - Giovanna MASSEI
 - Tomasz PODGORSKI
 - Jose Manuel SANCHEZ-VIZCAINO RODRIGUEZ
 - Sergei KHOMENKO
 - András NAHLIK
- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**
 - Francesco Berlingieri
- **EFSA:**
 - Sofie DHOLLANDER,
 - Andrey GOGIN

15. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

16. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes

17. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes⁷ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest⁸, EFSA

⁷ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

18. Scientific topics for discussion

The terms of reference were clarified. The European Commission explained the background of the mandate. The methodology to address the terms of references was discussed. The participants agreed on the task division and responsibilities.

- a) Evaluate the epidemiological data on ASF from Lithuania, Poland, Latvia and Estonia in order to obtain indications on the local behaviour of ASF in the wild boar population and its interaction with domestic pigs.
- b) An assessment of the possible risk of spread of ASF-Genotype II strains/isolates currently or recently circulating in Europe, and especially in Russia or the Baltic States, by pigs or wild boar becoming "carrier" that might play a role in virus transmission while remaining non-symptomatic.
- c) Where new data is available, provide an update of previous Scientific Opinions on ASF, in particular: i) describe identifiable relevant trends in wild boar population dynamics in the EU and its Eastern neighbouring territories; and ii) provide an updated distribution of ASF competent vectors (soft ticks) and its possible role on ASF epidemiology specially in Russia or the Baltic States.
- d) In view of controlling ASF, assess the best management options for wild boar both in infected areas and in the bordering risk areas, taking into account the local climatic conditions and wild boar ecology. Assess in particular the suitability, effectiveness and the practical aspects of implementation of the main measures, in particular different tailor-made feed ban(s) for wild boar, selective well-described hunting practices, taking into account the local situations and giving quantitative baseline indications on these measures as well as spatial and temporal parameters.

19. Next meeting:

14-16 April, 2015 in Parma

⁸ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Welfare

Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Working Group on African swine fever

Held from 05 until 06 March 2015
in Parma

(Agreed on 10 March 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

- Ana De La Torre
- Carola Sauter-Louis
- Hans-Hermann Thulke
- Frank Koenen
- Vittorio Guberti
- Sergei Khomenko

- **EFSA:**

- Sofie DHOLLANDER,
- Alessandro BROGLIA,
- Andrey GOGIN

20. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

21. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes

22. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes⁹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest¹⁰, EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

23. Scientific topics for discussion

The terms of reference were clarified. The European Commission explained the background of the mandate. The methodology to address the terms of references was discussed. The participants agreed on the task division and responsibilities.

- a) Evaluate the epidemiological data on ASF from Lithuania, Poland, Latvia and Estonia in order to obtain indications on the local behaviour of ASF in the wild boar population and its interaction with domestic pigs.

⁹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

¹⁰ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

- b) An assessment of the possible risk of spread of ASF-Genotype II strains/isolates currently or recently circulating in Europe, and especially in Russia or the Baltic States, by pigs or wild boar becoming "carrier" that might play a role in virus transmission while remaining non-symptomatic.
- c) Where new data is available, provide an update of previous Scientific Opinions on ASF, in particular: i) describe identifiable relevant trends in wild boar population dynamics in the EU and its Eastern neighbouring territories; and ii) provide an updated distribution of ASF competent vectors (soft ticks) and its possible role on ASF epidemiology specially in Russia or the Baltic States.
- d) In view of controlling ASF, assess the best management options for wild boar both in infected areas and in the bordering risk areas, taking into account the local climatic conditions and wild boar ecology. Assess in particular the suitability, effectiveness and the practical aspects of implementation of the main measures, in particular different tailor-made feed ban(s) for wild boar, selective well-described hunting practices, taking into account the local situations and giving quantitative baseline indications on these measures as well as spatial and temporal parameters.

24. Next meeting:

12-31 March, 2015 by web-conference

Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Welfare
Minutes of the 1st meeting of the Working Group on African swine fever
Held from 09 until 12 February 2015
by web-conference
(Agreed on February 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**
 - Sandra Blome
 - Ana De La Torre
 - Carola Sauter-Louis
 - Hans-Hermann Thulke
 - Claire Guinat
 - Tomasz Podgorski
 - Giovanna Massei
 - Maria Luisa Arias
 - Frank Koenen
 - Vittorio Guberti
 - Sergei Khomenko
 - András Nahlik
- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**
 - Francesco Berlingieri
- **EFSA:**
 - Sofie DHOLLANDER,
 - Alessandro BROGLIA,
 - Andrey GOGIN

25. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

26. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes

27. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest¹², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest

¹¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

¹² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

28. Scientific topics for discussion

The terms of reference were clarified. The European Commission explained the background of the mandate. The methodology to address the terms of references was discussed. The participants agreed on the task division and responsibilities.

- a) Evaluate the epidemiological data on ASF from Lithuania, Poland, Latvia and Estonia in order to obtain indications on the local behaviour of ASF in the wild boar population and its interaction with domestic pigs.
- b) An assessment of the possible risk of spread of ASF-Genotype II strains/isolates currently or recently circulating in Europe, and especially in Russia or the Baltic States, by pigs or wild boar becoming "carrier" that might play a role in virus transmission while remaining non-symptomatic.
- c) Where new data is available, provide an update of previous Scientific Opinions on ASF, in particular: i) describe identifiable relevant trends in wild boar population dynamics in the EU and its Eastern neighbouring territories; and ii) provide an updated distribution of ASF competent vectors (soft ticks) and its possible role on ASF epidemiology specially in Russia or the Baltic States.
- d) In view of controlling ASF, assess the best management options for wild boar both in infected areas and in the bordering risk areas, taking into account the local climatic conditions and wild boar ecology. Assess in particular the suitability, effectiveness and the practical aspects of implementation of the main measures, in particular different tailor-made feed ban(s) for wild boar, selective well-described hunting practices, taking into account the local situations and giving quantitative baseline indications on these measures as well as spatial and temporal parameters.

29. Next meeting:

5-6 March, 2015 in Parma